



Norman Cross
Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

upon the

Sanitary Condition of the District

During the year 1958.

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NORMAN CROSS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Venerable A. ROYLE

Miss E. E. BROWN

H. WILLIAMS, J.P.
(*Chairman of the Council*)

T. E. R. PARSONS

H. M. T. JONES

T. R. OSWIN, I.S.O.

C. SMITH

W. F. CANNON, O.B.E., J.P.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health F. D. F. STEEDE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
(Resigned 31/7/58)

P. V. CANT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Commenced 1/9/58)

Public Health Inspector H. E. REEVE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health
Inspector A. E. BENNETT, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	35795 acres
Estimated Population (mid 1958)	8990
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1958 ..	2626
Rateable Value, 31/12/58	£74,155
Value of Penny Rate, 31 3 1958	£300

To the Norman Cross Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my first Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

The general health of the District has been excellent, and there have been no epidemics.

The population has increased by 250 during the year (mid-year estimate), chiefly due to private building in the Orton area.

The birth and death rates are still below the national average, but when adjusted by the Registrar General's comparability factor they almost approach the national figures.

During the year the water supply to the last of the outlying and fen areas has been completed, and now every home in the District has a satisfactory piped supply within reach. Pressure difficulties still occur in the parish of Yaxley, but should cease when the joint scheme with Old Fletton is completed. This scheme has been started, and is progressing steadily.

Slum clearance is still a relatively large problem, but fortunately the hutted camp at Sibson is now reaching its last days, and the occupants are being re-housed at Yaxley. Building by the Council is still very slow. To speed this up in the future contracts will have to be large enough to attract builders with sufficient resources, so that the work can proceed more steadily. This subject is mentioned in detail in the Surveyor's part of the Report, and I am aware that it has caused considerable worry to the Council.

The nuisance caused by fumes from the brickyard chimneys still persists. Research continues on this subject, which is not being allowed to drop. Nuisance is also caused in the Orton area by the smell from the lagoon where the sugar beet conveying water is dried. This is a big subject with many aspects, and is certainly receiving the attention of the Public Health Inspector and myself. The British Sugar Corporation are co-operating well, and are spending considerable sums of money to endeavour to eliminate the nuisance.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Members of the Council, their officers and staff, for their kindness and help to me on taking up this new appointment.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	136
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	15.2
Still-births	5
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	35.4
Total live and still-births	141
Infant deaths	2
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	14.7
„ „ „ „ „ „ —legitimate	15.8
„ „ „ „ „ „ —illegitimate	Nil
Neo Natal (first four weeks) „ „	14.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	6.6
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil
Death rate per 1,000 population	9.35

INFANT DEATHS

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Actual Number of Deaths	1	3	3	2	1	2
Rates All Infants Per 1,000 Live Births	7.2	28.3	21.7	17.2	7.4	14.7

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	15
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil

Comparison of rates with those of England & Wales.

	Per 1,000 Population				Per 1,000 LiveBirths	Per 1,000 TotalBirths
	Live Births	Ad-justed Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Ad-justed Death Rate	Infantile Mortality	Still Births
Norman Cross R.D.C.	15.2	16.1	9.35	11.3	14.7	35.4
England & Wales	16.4	16.4	11.7	11.7	22.5	21.6

The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures) :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Males	Females	Totals
All Causes.		46	38	84
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	.....	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other .....	.....	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease .....	.....	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria .....	.....	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .....	.....	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .....	.....	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis .....	.....	—	—	—
8. Measles .....	.....	—	—	—
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases .....	.....	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	.....	2	—	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	.....	4	—	4
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	.....	—	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	.....	—	—	—
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms .....	.....	1	6	7
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	.....	1	—	1
16. Diabetes .....	.....	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	.....	3	5	8
18. Coronary disease, angina .....	.....	10	6	16
19. Hypertension with heart disease .....	.....	3	2	5
20. Other heart disease .....	.....	5	9	14
21. Other circulatory disease .....	.....	1	2	3
22. Influenza .....	.....	—	1	1
23. Pneumonia .....	.....	1	1	2
24. Bronchitis .....	.....	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .....	.....	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum .....	.....	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea .....	.....	—	1	1
28. Nephritis & nephrosis .....	.....	1	—	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	.....	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	.....	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations .....	.....	1	—	1
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases .....	.....	5	1	6
33. Motor Vehicle accidents .....	.....	3	—	3
34. All other accidents .....	.....	3	1	4
35. Suicide .....	.....	—	—	—
36. Homicide & operations of war .....	.....	—	—	—

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector's Office.

18, Priestgate,

Peterborough.

26th June, 1959.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I have the honour to present my ninth Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

HOUSING :—The number of new dwellings built since 1945 is as follows :—

(a) **By the District Council** :—

Up to 31.12.1956.	During 1957.	During 1958.
Alwalton 4	Yaxley 6	Holme 2
Chesterton 2		
Elton 18		
Farcet 44		
Folksworth 2		
Glatton 4		
Holme 8		
Morborne 4		
Orton Longueville 6		
Orton Waterville 10		
Stibbington 2		
Stilton 28		
Yaxley 82		
214	6	2 — 222

Temporary dwellings adapted and in use :—

Holmewood—9 Sibson Camp—8 —17 in use

Dwellings under construction by Council :—

Holme — 4 Bungalows and 4 Houses)
Yaxley — 14 Bungalows and 18 Houses) —40 Dwellings

Plans approved or in preparation :—

Holme — 2 Houses, Yaxley Broadway—12 Flats and 52 other dwellings. Sites at Farcet, Stilton and Elton.

(b) by Private Developers :—

The number of dwellings completed since January, 1947 is as follows :—

YEAR	HOUSES	BUNGALOWS	TOTAL
1947/52	33	11	44
1953	20	6	26
1954	20	26	46
1955	24	26	50
1956	29	31	60
1957	16	32	48
1947—57	142	132	274

Completed during 1958.

PARISH	HOUSES	BUNGALOWS	CONVERSION	TOTAL
Alwalton	...	1		1
Elton	2	1		3
Farcet	.....	1		1
Folksworth	.....	4		4
Holme	6			6
Orton Longueville	4	3		7
Orton Waterville	1	1	1	3
Stibbington	2			2
Stilton	1	1		2
Yaxley	2	4		6
	18	16	1	35

Total private dwellings erected since 1947 — — — 309

Private dwellings under construction at 31st December, 1958 :—

15 Houses and 36 Bungalows — — — 51 Dwellings

Private Enterprise Housing was only at a moderate level, an important factor being the economic “squeeze” which made house loans difficult to obtain. The position eased considerably towards the end of 1958 and site preparations being carried out on several estates should make considerably more house building possible in 1959. More people are looking for a site within reach of the City, but not on an estate with too many other houses ; sewerage of such parishes as Folksworth and Glatton would make considerably more of such sites available. People requiring a house on a larger estate seem to have a good choice in this and other districts adjoining.

Council House Building was again very slow. The progress at Holme-wood was very poor indeed. 32 dwellings are under construction at Yaxley Broadway and everything is prepared for a further 64 ; with sites being planned at Farcet, Stilton and Elton it does appear that progress in future will improve. It is clear, however, that if a steady rate of building is to be maintained then the contracts must be large enough to attract builders with sufficient resources and there must be advance planning so that work proceeds smoothly in stages.

The 50—1919 Type Council Houses were improved by the addition of a bath, lavatory basin, W.C., hot water system and drainage.

Site 4, Sibson Camp was closed during 1958. The eight occupants remaining on Site 3, together with suitable cases on the Air-field Site, will be housed at Yaxley when the present contract is complete.

Although only 5 Demolition Orders and 5 Closing Orders were made, 33 houses were demolished and 5 closed during the year. The pressing need now is for considerably more Council building, both for slum clearance and general need.

9 Improvement Grant Applications were received during the year.

Overcrowding. There is no statutory overcrowding in the area, although there are cases where families have, due to natural increase, become undesirably crowded in their houses.

Water Supply. During the year 49 domestic, 40 metered and 38 building supplies were connected. There were 36 burst mains and 47 burst services. Water consumption was 41,787 thousand gallons on metered supplies and 60,527 on domestic, a total of 102,314. The domestic consumption was 19.3 gallons per head per day.

Water contract No. 8 for 18 miles of main in Fen and Outlying areas was completed.

Complaints were again received as to low pressures on Yaxley Broadway ; an alteration to the valves at the Yaxley Booster Station enabled a small improvement to be made, but there will still be periods of low pressure until the Fletton Avenue Booster Station is pressurised. Permission was obtained to obtain tenders for the joint scheme of main laying and pressure improvement, and this should commence in 1959.

The increase in number of consumers in Orton Longueville has made it necessary to dispense with the pressure reducing valve previously used, in order that a satisfactory pressure may be available.

Drainage. By the end of 1958 drains from 989 properties had been connected to the public sewers in Yaxley, Farcet, Stilton, Orton Longueville and Orton Waterville. Work of disconnecting drains from old street sewers and re-connecting to the new soil sewers is being carried out by several small local builders, suitable cases in Orton Longueville and Orton Waterville being complete. Generally this

scheme is now working well, most of the teething troubles having been overcome. Regular maintenance at the five pumping stations is essential for satisfactory working. At Farcet, the retaining wall to the Pumping Station was re-built and the opportunity was taken to attend to faults in jointing of the rising main.

Contract No. 6A for a 7" sewer to serve estates and schools at Orton Waterville and Orton Longueville was completed.

Maintenance of sewage dykes throughout the area continued, and two dykes at Folksworth and one at Morborne were piped.

Refuse Collection. The Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipping vehicle was delivered in January, 1958. This vehicle carries a much greater bulk of refuse and has enabled the increasing loads to be dealt with. The diesel engine in the new vehicle has a fuel consumption of 10—12 m.p.g., as against 5—6 m.p.g. with the old petrol vehicle of less power. A new garage and store was erected at Yaxley Depot, with room for two vehicles, the old "Dennis" vehicle being retained for the time being. As fewer runs to tip are required with the new vehicle, a new collection rota was brought into force as from 14th. April, 1958, to give a better service to outlying areas and spread the work more evenly.

If collection could be made weekly instead of the present fortnightly system it would be a greater improvement, would be more hygienic and would increase the flexibility of the service. If the labour position remains as it has been for the past 12 months it should be possible to recruit the extra gang that would be required.

Farcet Tip was fenced during the year. The old pond at Haddon, drained in a previous year, was used as a tip and a 12" concrete pipe drain laid across the middle.

Food Inspection. Slaughtering at the Farcet premises continues to increase, and during 1958, 219 cattle, 2 calves, 745 sheep and 1842 pigs were killed. 100% inspection has been maintained, but this has meant overtime 3 week nights and Sunday evening each week throughout most of the year; the bulk of this work has been carried out by my Assistant Mr. Bennett, and I should like to thank him for the way in which he has cheerfully accepted this responsible and sometimes unpleasant duty.

Most of the mobile food shops coming into the District have been inspected. Although standards have improved it is also pleasing to note the increasing use of pre-packed foods on these vehicles.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

From 1st April, 1958 to 31st December, 1958	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	219	—	2	745	1842	—
Number inspected	219	—	2	745	1842	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	46	—	1	8	51	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	21.26	—	50	1.07	2.82	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	—	Nil	Nil	92	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.97	—	Nil	Nil	5.04	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	—
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	—

Food Premises.

1. No. of Food Premises by type of business.

Bakehouses	4	90 Premises. (None has been counted under more than one heading).
Butchers	4	
Cafes	4	
Fish and Chips	5	
General Dealers	35	
Greengrocers	4	
Public Houses	28	
Sweets	6	

2. No. of Food Premises by type registered under Section 16 of F.D.A. 1955 and No. of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regs.

Bakehouses	1
Butchers	3
Dairies	Nil
General Dealers	25
Public Houses	1
Sweets	5

3. No. of inspections of registered food premises with informative comment as necessary :— 94.

4. Any new educational activity :— Nil

5. Method of disposal of condemned food :— Stained green and removed by Contractor. Subsequently treated at waste products plant.

6. Where special examination of a stock or consignment of food has been necessary the total quantity as well as quantity condemned. Nil

Miscellaneous. Byelaws relating to Knackers Yards were adopted during the year and this has enabled improvements to be enforced at the one yard in this District.

Plans and Applications received during the year were as follows :-

New Houses	21
Bungalows	24
Garden, Tool and Store Shed	7
Agricultural Buildings	15
Garages	21
Outline Applications	18
Notices and Signs	11
New Accesses	8
Alterations and Additions	22
Pigsties	2
Schools	1
Conversions to dwellings	17
Electricity Lines	8
Greenhouses and Conservatories	5
Shops	Nil
Caravan Applications	19
Miscellaneous	16
Temporary Dwellings	1
Petrol Filling Stations	7
Gas Mains	2
Individual Caravan Licences in Force	21

4,802 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors, as follows :-

New Buildings	409	Housing and Public Health	
Sewers and Drains	609	Acts	235
Rodents	49	Caravans	35
Refuse Disposal	79	Civil Defence	27
Water Supply	153	Council, Committees,	
Council Houses	631	Conferences	31
Infectious Disease	21	Vermin	18
Meat and Food	174	Interviews	2,114
		Miscellaneous	202
		Factories Act	15

May I thank the Council, my colleagues and staff for their help during the year.

H. ERIC REEVE,
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

The following table gives the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during 1958.

[illegible]

Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL :—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

I am,
Your obedient servant,
PHILIP V. CANT,
Medical Officer of Health.

